

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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SUBJ: PRESS SUMMARY: MARCH 25

1. DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT, EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE
DAILY SUMMARY OF PERTINENT PRESS ITEMS. THIS IS THE FIRST.

2. MOSCOW ARRIVAL ON PRAVDA'S FRONT PAGE. PRAVDA FRONT PAGES
THE TASS STORY ON THE ARRIVAL OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND
PARTY FOR TALKS ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND ON PREPARA-
TIONS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. LISTED AS MEETING HIM AT
THE AIRPORT WERE GROMYKO, MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION BUGAYEV,
FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV, DOBRYNIN, BREZHNEV
ASSISTANT ALEKSANDROV, U.S.A. DIVISION CHIEF KORNIYENKO,
AND PROTOCOL CHIEF NIKOFOROV. THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS TO
NEWSMEN ABOUT EXPECTING CONCRETE PROGRESS AND THE US DETER-
MINATION TO CONTINUE IMPROVEMENT OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS ARE
QUOTED. PRAVDA IDENTIFIES SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN AS
"RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS" OF THE WHITE HOUSE. AND THE BONN
STOPOVER AND MEETING WITH SCHEEL AND BRANDT ARE REPORTED
BRIEFLY ON PAGE 3.

3. GRECHKO IN IRAQ. SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTER GRECHKO'S
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VISIT TO IRAQ IS CARRIED IN A TASS ITEM IN PRAVDA. YESTERDAY

GRECHKO MET WITH PRESIDENT AL-BAKR AND GAVE HIM A FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV.

4. ANTI-NASSER CAMPAIGN IN EGYPT. PRAVDA CARRIES A SHORT TASS PIECE NOTING THAT SOME PROMINENT LIBYANS HAVE ASKED SADAT TO STOP THE CAIRO PRESS ATTACKS ON NASSER. IN ITS IMPLICIT CRITICISM OF SADAT'S INTERNAL POLICIES, THE PIECE IS TYPICAL OF THE INCREASING NEGATIVISM IN SOVIET PRESS REPORTING ON EGYPT.

5. "ISRAELI PROVOCATIONS" IS THE HEADLINE OF A TASS REPORT IN PRAVDA THAT ISRAELI AIRCRAFT SATURDAY REPEATEDLY VIOLATED LEBANESE AIR SPACE TO ATTACK SOUTH LEBANESE TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

6. HOMEPORTING. A CRITICAL PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON THE GREEK REGIME NOTES INTER ALIA THAT IT IS CONTINUING THE PAPADOPOULIS POLICY OF AGREEING WITH PENTAGON "HAWKS" TO GIVE THE SIXTH FLEET A BASE -- AN ACT AGAINST THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF GREECE AND DETENTE.
STOESSEL

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